

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-34 (Canceled)

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A silica glass crucible, comprising  
a crucible main body comprising silica glass and having an inside surface and an  
outside surface, and  
a silica glass powder layer formed on the whole or in a ring configuration on the  
outside surface of the crucible main body, and/or in a ring configuration on an upper end  
portion of the inside surface of the crucible main body, wherein  
silica glass powder of the silica glass powder layer comprises fine silica particles and  
coarse silica particles,  
the fine silica glass particles constitute more than 20 weight% to 68 weight % of all  
the silica glass powder and have particle size smaller than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ , and  
the coarse silica glass particles constitute the remaining silica glass powder and have  
particle size from 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to smaller than 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 36 (Canceled)

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein the  
silica glass powder layer is formed on the whole of the outside surface of the crucible main  
body.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein the silica glass powder layer is formed in a ring configuration on the outside surface of the crucible main body, and the silica glass of the crucible main body is exposed on a bottom portion of the outside surface.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein the silica glass powder layer is formed in a ring configuration on the upper end portion of the outside surface of the crucible main body, and the silica glass of the crucible main body is exposed on a bottom portion of the inside surface.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 38, wherein the silica glass powder layer is further formed in a ring configuration on the upper end portion of the inside surface of the crucible main body, and the silica glass of the crucible main body is exposed on a bottom portion of the inside surface.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 39, wherein the silica glass powder layer is further formed in a ring configuration on the upper end portion of the inside surface of the crucible main body, and the silica glass of the crucible main body is exposed on a bottom portion of the inside surface.

Claim 42 (Canceled)

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): The silica glass crucible of Claim ~~36~~ 35, wherein the silica glass powder has a particle size distribution that enables to control shrinkage percentage of the silica glass powder layer to be less than 10% at a time of sintering the powder layer.

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein [[a]] an area density of a silica glass in the silica glass powder layer is more than 1 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein the silica glass powder layer has a thickness larger than 0.1 mm.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein the silica glass powder layer comprises synthetic silica glass powder.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 46, wherein the synthetic silica glass powder has an alkaline metal concentration of less than 1 ppm.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The silica glass crucible of Claim 35, wherein the silica glass powder layer further comprises binder comprising an organic substance.

Claim 49 (New): The silica glass crucible according to Claim 35, wherein the coarse silica glass particles constitute 42 weight % to less than 80 weight % of all the silica glass powder.